EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2.   Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with Elliott J. Mason III (Reg No. 56,569) on 09/08/2008.

3.   Pursuant to MPEP 606.01, the title has been changed to read:

-- SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLING TASK EXECUTION USING A GRAPHICAL

REPRESENTATION OF TASK DEPENDENCY --;

4.   Please amend the claims as follows:

        1. (Currently Amended) A method for control of task execution in a computer

system including:

        accepting a specification of a graphical representation of task dependency

having

                a plurality of task elements each associated with a different task,

                a resource element having a plurality of attachment locations, wherein the

resource element comprises a timeline with attachment locations being

associated with points on the timeline, and

linking elements coupling the task elements to the resource element at the plurality of attachment locations, wherein couplings of task elements to attachment locations on the resource element specify an execution ordering constraint on the tasks associated with the task elements to define an order in which the tasks are to be executed; and

executing the tasks according to the graphical representation of task dependency.

4. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A data structure tangibly embodied on a computer readable storage medium, the data structure including:

data representations of a plurality of task elements,

a data representation of a resource element having a plurality of attachment locations, wherein the resource element comprises a timeline with the attachment locations being associated with point on the timeline, and

data associating the task elements to the attachment locations, wherein associations of task elements to attachment locations specify an execution ordering constraint on tasks associated with the task elements to define an order in which the tasks are to be executed;

wherein the data structure specifies a graphical representation of task

dependency used by a computer system to execute the tasks associated with the task

elements according to the ordering constraint.

13. (Currently Amended) A task execution system including:

a repository including data conforming to a data model, the data model including

       a plurality of task elements each associated with a different task,

       a resource element having a plurality of attachment locations, wherein the

resource element comprises a timeline with the attachment locations being

associated with points on the timeline, and

       linking elements coupling the task elements to the resource element at the

plurality of attachment locations, wherein couplings of task elements to

attachment locations on the resource element specify an execution ordering

constraint on the tasks associated with the task elements to define an order in

which the tasks are to be executed, and

a task execution module including at least one processor, having access to the

repository over at least one input device or port in communication with the repository,

configured to execute the tasks according to the graphical representation of task

dependency.

15. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A task execution system <u>including at least one</u> <u>processor</u> including:

means for accepting a specification of a graphical representation of task dependency having

a plurality of task elements each associated with a different task,

a resource element having a plurality of attachment locations<u>, wherein the</u> <u>resource element comprises a timeline with the attachment locations being</u> <u>associated with points on the timeline</u>, and

linking elements coupling the task elements to the resource element at the plurality of attachment locations, wherein couplings of task elements to attachment locations on the resource element specify an execution ordering constraint on the tasks associated with the task elements to define an order in which the tasks are to be executed, and

means for executing the tasks according to the graphical representation of task dependency.

21. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method for control of task execution in a computer system including:

accepting a specification of a graphical representation of task dependency having

a plurality of task elements each associated with a different task,

a resource element <u>having a plurality of attachment locations, wherein the resource element comprises a timeline with the attachment locations being associated with points on the timeline</u>, and

linking elements coupling the task elements to the resource element at a plurality of attachment locations, in a time-ordered sequence defining an execution ordering constraint on the tasks associated with the task elements to define an order in which the tasks are to be executed, and

executing the tasks according to the graphical representation of task dependency.

-- END OF AMENDMENT --

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ERIC C. WAI whose telephone number is (571)270-1012. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng - Ai An can be reached on 571-272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Meng-Ai An/   /Eric C Wai/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2195   Examiner, Art Unit 2195